

HONORING THE DEDICATION AND LEADERSHIP OF LINDA SUTHERLAND

HON. ALAN GRAYSON

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 29, 2010

Mr. GRAYSON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the dedication and community leadership of Linda Sutherland in honor of Children's Awareness Month. As executive director of the Orange County Healthy Start Coalition, Mrs. Sutherland helps provide nutritional education and counseling services to pregnant woman and mothers with infants in order to ensure healthy pregnancies and babies. For 10 years, under Linda Sutherland's direction, new and expecting mothers in Central Florida have had access to support and important resources that will ensure their child receives the highest quality of health care. Children's Awareness Month focuses on bringing attention to the emotional, physical, and mental health needs of our children and youth. Linda Sutherland's leadership with the Healthy Start Coalition encourages the strengthening of maternal and child health by ensuring that all Florida families have access to a continuum of affordable and quality health and related services.

Mrs. Sutherland is a graduate of Marymount College where she graduated with a degree in Business Administration. She was then elected and served for the next 12 years as an Orange County School Board Member. Over the past two decades, Mrs. Sutherland has been given numerous awards for her professional and personal achievements and contributions. The Who's Who of International Women, Orange County Public Health, and the Florida School Board Association are just a few of the organizations who have recognized her outstanding leadership and active involvement in the Central Florida community. Linda Sutherland also serves as a peer reviewer for The Maternal Child Health Journal and contributes to the State of Florida March of Dimes Planning Committee.

Madam Speaker, Mrs. Sutherland's advocacy on behalf of women and children in the Central Florida community simply cannot be measured. Throughout the last 25 years, Mrs. Sutherland has demonstrated that a single person can make a difference in many lives. The Healthy Start Coalition transforms families every day by working together to reducing infant mortality and low birth weight babies. It gives me pleasure to honor Mrs. Linda Sutherland who deserves this recognition for her incredibly charitable work and philanthropy in the Central Florida community.

CONGRATULATING VOLLEYBALL STAND-OUT MEGAN C. HODGE ON HER ACCOMPLISHMENT ON THE U.S. NATIONAL TEAM

HON. DONNA M. CHRISTENSEN

OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 29, 2010

Mrs. CHRISTENSEN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize a talented young Virgin Islander, Megan C. Hodge, a member of the

U.S. National Volleyball Team and a senior member of Penn State University Nittany Lions who was recently named the 2010 Penn State Female Athlete of the Year and was also a co-winner of the prestigious Honda-Broderick Cup, awarded to the Top Collegiate Woman Athlete in the country. Megan is the first Penn State University student athlete to win the Honda-Broderick award in the school's 155 year history. Megan, who is an outside hitter led the Penn State Nittany Lions to an unprecedented third straight NCAA title in December 2009, the crowning moment of a 102-match winning streak. She was named the 2009 American Volleyball Coaches Association Division I National Player of the Year, College Sports Information Directors of America Academic All American of the Year for Volleyball, and Big Ten Player of the Year. Megan is part of the winningest class in the Penn State volleyball program history with a career record of 142-5.

Madam Speaker, Megan excels off the court as well as on the court. She graduated last month with a Bachelor of Science in Business Management from Penn State University. She was honored as an ESPN the Magazine Second Team Academic All-American in 2008 and garnered first team accolades in 2009. Later that year, she went on to become Academic All American of the Year for volleyball. She is a three time Academic All-Big Ten honoree.

Madam Speaker, today, Megan will be welcomed home to the Virgin Islands by her friends and family and proud Virgin Islanders who commend her achievements as a star athlete and a star student. The daughter of Michael and Carmen Samuel Hodge, who themselves are former members of the U.S. Virgin Islands National Volleyball team, Megan who grew up in North Carolina, returns to the islands for a much needed rest and relaxation.

Madam Speaker, I proudly rise to congratulate Megan and her family on her achievements on and off the volleyball court. She exemplifies the ideals of excellence that we all wish will inspire other young people in the Virgin Islands and around the country that hard work, dedication and a commitment of being nothing less than the best is the standard that we all should live by.

AFFORDABLE HEALTH CARE FOR AMERICA ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 24, 2010

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of Preservation of Access to Care for Medicare Beneficiaries and Pension Relief Act.

This important legislation will ensure that Medicare and TRICARE beneficiaries will be able to keep their doctors by retroactively reversing a 21 percent decrease in physician reimbursement that occurred on June 1, 2010. Additionally, this measure would provide physicians a 2.2 percent increase in physician reimbursements through November 30, 2010.

While I am pleased that the House is considering a 6 month fix, I continue to support a permanent solution. It is not fair to medical providers to face the continued uncertainty of

temporary fixes. I am proud that I supported and the House passed a permanent fix last November, and would urge my colleagues in both the House and Senate to recommit themselves to passing legislation to permanently fix this problem.

DESIGNATING THE NATIONAL AERONAUTICS AND SPACE ADMINISTRATION (NASA) AS A NATIONAL SECURITY INTEREST AND ASSET

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 29, 2010

Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas. Madam Speaker, I join my colleagues in strong support of NASA programs across the country, and I share their concerns regarding the administration's proposal to cancel NASA's Constellation Program, which includes the Orion Crew Capsule, the Altair Lunar Lander, and the Ares I and Ares V rockets.

These programs, which together comprise our human spaceflight program, were authorized in both 2005 and 2008 by Republican and Democratic Congresses respectively. It is under the Constellation program that NASA is currently developing new launch vehicles and spacecraft capable of travel to the moon, Mars and other destinations. Not only does cancelling the Constellation Program jeopardize America's leadership role in human space exploration, but it will have detrimental effects on our economy and national security.

Take, for example, the Johnson Space Center in Houston, Texas. The Johnson Space Center has the lead to manage the Constellation Program and several of its major elements, including the Orion Crew Exploration Vehicle and the Altair Lunar Lander. Without Constellation, the Johnson Space Center could lose anywhere from 4,000 to 7,000 high-tech jobs. If the JSC loses 4,000 direct jobs, an additional 2,315 indirect jobs would be lost, totaling 6,315; loss of income and expenditures locally would be over \$567 million. If the JSC loses 7,000 direct jobs, an additional 4,052 indirect jobs would be lost, totaling 11,052; loss of income and expenditures locally would total almost \$1 billion.

When speaking of the decision to cancel the Constellation Program, Administrator Bolden stated that "NASA intends to work with the Congress to make this transition smooth and effective, working responsibly on behalf of the taxpayers." To the contrary, I believe that the best use of taxpayers' money is to continue the investment in NASA to build America's scientific future. That future will create jobs.

The present administration's plan for the Constellation Program would cause drastic job loss across America and would place America in a behind the edge position as it relates to competitiveness in scientific research. NASA and the space industry are critical to Houston's economic success in both the short and long term. According to the Bay Area Houston Economic Partnership, NASA accounts for nearly 16,800 direct federal jobs and serves as the engine for another 3,100 civilian jobs that together supply more than \$2.5 billion in payroll into Houston's regional economy. The Johnson Space Center is the primary location